

Taskforce NEWS

The newsletter of the Education and Employers Taskforce

Jan 2012 - Issue 7

Education
AND
Employers



inspiring
the
future

Including
"The Year in
View 2011"

NEWS



How can work experience be made more relevant in 2012

During 2011, the Education and Employers Taskforce *Working Group on Work Experience* brought together policy officials from the Department for Education and HM Treasury with head teachers, Education Business Partnership Organisations and representatives from a wide range of key bodies including UKCES, ASCL, CBI, BITC and CIPD to talk about the future of work experience.

The Working Group considered important new evidence on the impact and delivery of work experience and a free seminar for policy makers and practitioners has been organised by the Taskforce for 24 January to share insights. The seminar includes a policy update from the lead official at the Department for Education, latest UK research on the impact of work experience, a seminar on link between work experience and social mobility and also discussion on the future of work experience and its delivery.

Participants also have the opportunity to hear and contribute to the review of "employer engagement in education and its funding" which the Taskforce is undertaking on behalf of the Department for Education.

Helping social mobility

Over lunch there will be the opportunity to hear research by Professor Richard Hatcher and Dr Tricia Le Gallais (Birmingham City University) on the link between work experience and social mobility. Drawing on a detailed study of five schools in the West Midlands, their research shows the way that work experience can serve to reinforce social inequalities and how one school, serving a highly disadvantaged area, has broken the trend by personalising and managing work experience more tightly. For further information email:

james.dawkins@educationandemployers.org

Research

Research shows wage premiums from education-employer engagement

Dr Anthony Mann and Christian Percy, from the Education and Employers Taskforce, will be giving a free seminar on School-Mediated Employer Engagement and Labour Market Outcomes for Young Adults: Wage Premiums and NEET Status. It takes place 12.30 - 1.30pm on 27 February 2012 at the Education and Employers Taskforce, 246 High Holborn, London, WC1V 7EX.

To reserve a place contact:

james.dawkins@educationandemployers.org

This seminar focuses on the relationship between participation in school-age (14-19) employer engagement activities and labour market outcomes among young adults aged 19-24. Drawing on a sample of 987 young Britons (done pro bono by YouGov) the seminar presents new data on correlations between employer engagement in education and wage premiums and likelihood of NEET status.

How Russell Group universities use work experience in admissions

In 2011 Taskforce research explored how 'experience of the world of work' feeds into admissions to Russell Group universities across six courses:



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Economic case for language learning & role of employer engagement

The Education and Employers Taskforce, CfBT Education Trust launched an important new report on languages entitled **The economic case for language learning and the role of employer engagement** on 14 December at UBS's London office.

Speakers included; Professor James Foreman-Peck, Cardiff Business School, Richard Hardie, Chairman, UBS Ltd, Brian Lightman, General Secretary, Association of School and College Leaders and Sir Jim Rose, Chairman of the Education Committee, CfBT Education Trust.

The report drew on a wide range of source material to demonstrate:

- Poor language competency is undermining the UK's competitiveness in international trade resulting in a loss of an estimated £7.3 billion per annum
- High employer demand for modern foreign language competency
- Rapidly falling levels of language study among young people
- Poor awareness among young people of employer demand for language skills

It is hoped that the report will help raise awareness with media, policy makers, employers and schools and colleges of the economic cost to the UK of its comparative weakness in language learning.

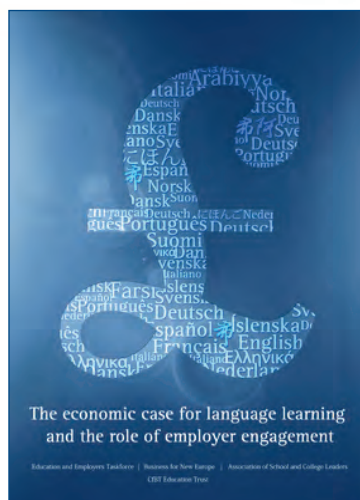
The Education and Employers Taskforce, its partners and a core group of employers including UBS want to encourage more employees who use languages as part of their job to agree to visit a state school or college and give young people career insights as part of **Inspiring the Future**.

London 2012 Olympics Speakers for Schools week

A special Speakers for Schools London 2012 Olympics week in December saw Olympic and Paralympic figures giving free talks in state schools and colleges.



Sebastian Coe and children at Oak Lodge School



The economic case for language learning and the role of employer engagement

Research

Business / Economics / Management, Dentistry, Engineering, Law, Medicine and Veterinary Medicine / Science. The report looks into whether 'experience of the world of work' was cited as an 'essential' or 'desirable' criteria, or not mentioned at all.

For the full report *The importance of experience of the world of work in admissions to Russell Group universities: a desktop review of admissions and criteria for six courses*, visit [here](#).

Young peoples' career aspirations aged 10-14

Louise Archer, Professor of Sociology of Education at King's College London, spoke at a free Taskforce research seminar about young peoples' career aspirations aged 10 - 14. She shared initial findings from a five year longitudinal study. Watch the full video [here](#).

There are now 50 research summaries on the Research section of the Taskforce website [here](#).

Taskforce and Pearson Enterprise Education project

The Taskforce and Pearson Enterprise Education Project presented interim findings from a joint research project with the Pearson Centre for Learning and Policy. *The Train2Thrive - Can enterprise and entrepreneurship education support growth, jobs and more?* review asked three key questions about the future of enterprise education in the Michael Gove era; What is enterprise education? What impact does it have? and How should it best be delivered?

Speakers included: Adam Jackson, Director of Enterprise and Small Business, BIS; Rod Bristow, President of Pearson UK (Chair); Dr Anthony Mann, Education and Employers Taskforce and Louis Coiffait, Pearson. Find out more about the ongoing project by visiting [here](#).

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Jonathan Edwards



Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson

Seb Coe, chair of the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games, visited children at Oak Lodge School in Wandsworth, a SEN deaf school. During the week other senior London 2012 figures including Deputy Chair Sir Keith Mills, Director of HR Jean Tomlin, Britain's most successful Paralympic athlete Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson and Olympic gold medal winner Jonathan Edwards gave talks in schools in London, Edinburgh and Stockton-on-Tees.

Seb Coe said: 'One of the highlights of my job is when I go into schools to share my experience with young people and help inspire their interest in sport. I'm delighted to be supporting the Speakers for Schools initiative which is encouraging leading people in their sectors to give talks for free in state schools.'

Visit: <http://www.speakers4schools.org/>

Speakers for Schools TES supplement

The *Times Educational Supplement* (TES) published a special 16-page Speakers for Schools and Inspiring the Future supplement on 25 November. TES produced this pro bono to support the initiatives.

In the supplement Robert Peston explains that he decided to set up Speakers for Schools because of his own experience of how state schools don't have the confidence or networks to attract top people to give talks to their students. Robert was receiving 10 invitations to speak in leading fee-paying schools for every one that he received from the kind of comprehensive that educated him.

Speakers for Schools was launched in October 2011 and is administered by the Education and Employers Taskforce. Already, some 750 eminent individuals, leaders in business, the arts, sciences, technology, sports, politics, the media, entertainment and academia have pledged to give at least one talk per year, for free, in a state school.



Research

New members of Taskforce Group on Research

The Education and Employers Taskforce Expert Group on Research has three new members: Dr Tricia Le Gallais (Birmingham City University), Tami McCrone (National Foundation for Educational Research) and Zamila Bunglawala (The Young Foundation). Read about the Group [here](#).

Stay in touch with the latest research

You can keep briefed on research developments in the field by signing up to the bi-monthly Taskforce research email. To register email:

James.Dawkins@educationandemployers.org with 'TFRM Subscribe' in the subject line.

Other Research

London Calling

London Calling is a new report from the Centre for London (incubated by Demos) on how London pupils can access HE, including the importance of aspiration, careers advice, social mobility and the value of high skills to the UK economy. Simon Hughes, who helped launch the report, advises that the Access HE model in the London report should be replicated nationally. Hughes has submitted his final report to the Prime Minister on increasing participation in higher education. To read the full report, London Calling, click [here](#).

Social mobility lagging behind other nations

Social mobility in the UK is lagging behind other nations, says a major new Sutton Trust report. Life chances remain stubbornly linked to your parent's education. Read the full article [here](#).

NEWS

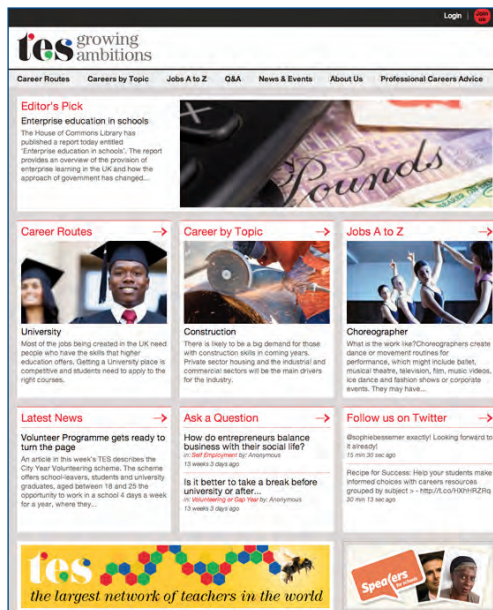
Robert adds: "It's about demonstrating the rewards of hard work and ambition. It's about shining a light on opportunities. It's about providing intellectual excitement. And most of all it is about showing our young people that they matter." Read the full supplement [here](#).

TES & Taskforce Growing Ambitions launching in 2012

TES Growing Ambitions is a website for teachers and careers professionals to share free resources. It has 1000s of practical resources that can be used to support young people's learning about jobs, careers and the world of work and help them to channel their future ambitions and aspirations. The Times Educational Supplement (TES) and the Education and Employers Taskforce jointly created Growing Ambitions. The site is editorially managed and maintained by TSL Education.

The idea arose from a recommendation in a pro bono report by Deloitte entitled *Helping young people succeed: How employers can support careers education*. The report recommended increasing and improving employer involvement in providing young people with careers education, information, advice and guidance.

Visit [Growing Ambitions](#).



[Growing Ambitions website](#)

Speak up NAHT article

The National Association of Headteachers' (NAHT) *Leadership Focus* magazine November issue carries an article entitled 'Speak up' about the launch of charity Speakers for Schools and features an interview with Brompton Bicycle CEO and Taskforce Trustee Will Butler-Adams. Read the full article [here](#).



[Leadership Focus magazine](#)

IEBE's work related learning campaign

The Institute for Education Business Excellence (IEBE) is campaigning to retain work related learning in the curriculum and has launched an online petition. IEBE's statement on work related learning and the petition can both be found on the IEBE's [website](#).

Research

School governors

New tool for schools to help find the perfect governor

A new web-based tool to help schools find a school governor with the right skills and talents was launched in November. After feedback from head teachers, chairs and clerks, SGOSS has developed an Online Governor Recruitment Service to allow schools to register their vacancies on the SGOSS website. This package also provides access to resources for parent governor recruitment. The Online Governor Recruitment Service is completely free and can be accessed at www.sgoos.org.uk/schools

Schools Minister Lord Hill said: "School governors play a key role in driving up standards in our schools and so I'm grateful for the work that the School Governors' One-Stop Shop (SGOSS) does. Their new Online Governor Recruitment Service is the first of its kind, providing an online resource to support schools' recruitment of all types of governors. Schools will be able to use the self-help tool to help them find a new governor with the skills they need. It will also give them the opportunity to think about the structure and capacity of school management, helping with school improvement".



This E bulletin was designed & produced by James Stokes at POPmedia Ltd
www.popmedia.co.uk

The Taskforce Year in View 2011



Highlights from 2011 include the launch of Speakers for Schools with Robert Peston, the Taskforce research conference on education and social mobility and the coming to fruition of our Inspiring the Future volunteering in education service which will officially launch in spring 2012.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our Partnership Board, Trustees and partners for their invaluable support during the year.



Robert Peston

Speakers for Schools launched in October

The launch of Speakers for Schools took place the week of 10 – 14 October. It is the idea of BBC business editor, Robert Peston, who wants to give state school pupils the same opportunities to hear inspirational speakers as those at independent schools. Speakers for Schools now has over 750 people volunteering to participate including many leading CEOs, politicians, media and arts people, scientists, entrepreneurs and academics.



George Alagiah

Launch week saw a series of talks in state schools around England. Speakers included: George Alagiah (BBC News), William Boyd (author), Damon Buffini (business leader), Sir Suma Chakrabarti (Ministry of Justice), Marcus Davey (Roundhouse theatre), Martha Lane Fox (founder Lastminute .com), Andy Haldane (Bank of England), Julia Hobsbawm (media entrepreneur), Laurence Hollingworth (J.P. Morgan), Ruby McGregor-Smith (business leader), Sir John Parker (Royal Academy of Engineering), Robert Peston (BBC), Trevor Phillips, (Equality & Human Rights Commission), Dame Marjorie Scardino (Pearson), Philipp Schindler (Google), Lord Rees (Astronomer Royal) and Baroness Vadera (former cabinet minister). Also taking part from the world of government and politics: David Cameron, Nick Clegg, Ed Miliband and Sir Gus O'Donnell.



Martha Lane Fox

Speakers addressed the big topical issues: technological, scientific, political, economic, historical, cultural, artistic, ecological and ethical. The aim is to broaden the horizons and raise the aspirations of disadvantaged young people. It is free to state secondary schools and colleges.

A total of 1247 schools have registered in the two months since the launch. Visit: www.speakers4schools.org



Dr Jan-Eric Sundgren, Senior Vice-President Public and Environmental Affairs, Volvo Group, speaking on the EU-funded European Coordinating Body for Maths, Science and Technology.



Professor Robert Schwartz, Harvard University



Inspiring the Future is a free service which sees people from all

Inspiring the Future website



Professor Steve Smith, Vice Chancellor Exeter University



Roland Rodd, Senior Partner at Finsbury

Taskforce conference on education, work and social mobility

Europe's leading conference on education and employer engagement took place at Warwick University on 12 October. The conference explored the links between education, contact with employers and social mobility and also examined international best practice.

This year's keynote speakers were Professor Robert Schwartz, Academic Dean, Harvard University and Dr Jan-Eric Sundgren, Senior Vice-President Public and Environmental Affairs, Volvo Group, speaking on the EU-funded European Coordinating Body for Maths, Science and Technology. To read papers and watch videos from the conference visit:

www.educationandemployers.org/research/research-conference-2011/

Inspiring the Future opens for registrations

Inspiring the Future is a free service being developed which will see people from all sectors and professions going into English state schools and FE colleges to talk about their jobs, careers and the education routes they took. The initial focus is on secondary schools, FE colleges and getting employers and employee volunteers registered. You can register to participate by visiting:

www.inspiringthefuture.org

A generous donation from the J.P. Morgan Chase Foundation has enabled the setting up of Inspiring the Future.

New Trustees

The Taskforce gained new Trustees in 2011: Rod Bristow, President of Pearson UK, Robert Peston, BBC Business Editor, Roland Rodd, Senior Partner at Finsbury and Professor Steve Smith, Vice Chancellor Exeter University. To read more about them visit:

<http://www.educationandemployers.org/who-we-are/the-trustees/>



Rod Bristow, President of Pearson UK,



Robert Peston, BBC Business Editor



Louise Rogers, Chief Executive of the TSL Education Ltd



Jackie Orme, Chief Executive of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD)

Taskforce's Partnership Board - new members

Louise Rogers, Chief Executive of the TSL Education Ltd - publisher of TES and THE, Jackie Orme, Chief Executive of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD) and Justin Davis Smith, Chief Executive of Volunteering England have joined the Taskforce's Partnership Board. Visit:

<http://www.educationandemployers.org/who-we-are/the-partnership-board/>



Justin Davis Smith, Chief Executive of Volunteering England